

September 11, Taiwan quickly announced its support for the allied war against terrorism. Taiwan has since supported the ally efforts to rid Iraq of Saddam Hussein and has offered humanitarian and developmental assistance in rebuilding Iraq for a free Iraqi people. For that, we certainly owe Taiwan a great deal of thanks.

Taiwan has shown itself to be a democratic and freedom embracing republic even while it has undergone threats posed by the People's Republic of China, PRC. As the world focuses on continuing tensions in the Middle East and Africa, the nuclear situation in North Korea, and other threats, we must not ignore the military threat posed by the PRC to our friends in Taiwan. The United States must continue to stand with Taiwan. It is an island of freedom that must be supported.

Aside from simply supporting Taiwan's democratic principles of open elections, human rights, and freedom of assembly and religious beliefs, we must also work to help them with their economy and support of markets and trade. I hope at some point the United States takes a serious and significant step in further strengthening our economic and political ties through a free trade agreement.

Taiwan is the United States' eighth largest trading partner and its largest investment partner. A study produced by the U.S. International Trade Commission showed a net gain of \$3.4 billion for the U.S. economy from a free trade agreement with Taiwan. And this benefits both American workers and businesses as well as those in Taiwan. It seems to be a winning situation for both Taiwan and the United States. With Taiwan's recent accession to the World Trade Organization, now is the right time to seriously consider beginning free trade negotiations with Taiwan.

While some say a free trade agreement may muddle our and Taiwan's relationship with the PRC, I am hopeful such an agreement will benefit all. An agreement could bring about a moderation and softening in the PRC's stance toward Taiwan; treating Taiwan as a partner to help it modernize and foster in itself democratic reforms.

Also, we need to make sure the United States stands behind Taiwan and helps put an end to the PRC's military might and strategic deployments which at times paint a real disturbing and threatening picture for Taiwan. The PRC has accelerated its military buildup and now has over 400 M-class missiles along its southeastern coast. And too many times the PRC has routinely conducted live-fire practicing around the Taiwan Strait.

When the PRC conducts these exercises, it further destabilizes the region. It undermines the right of the people of Taiwan to live without intimidation and threats from the PRC. The PRC even sought to keep Taiwan from seeking assistance of the World Health Organization during the SARS outbreak,

which in fact originated on mainland China and still somewhat remains a problem in Asia.

We cannot stand by when the PRC provokes Taiwan. Even as we deal with pressing issues around the world, we must not lose sight of our vital interests in Taiwan. I strongly supported President Bush's approval in April of 2002 of a sale of Kidd-class destroyers, anti-submarine P-3 "Orion" aircraft, and diesel submarines to Taiwan. In accord with the Taiwan Relations Act, we must continue to speak out in defense of Taiwan, and use our strongest diplomacy to urge the PRC, as a responsible member of the international community, to abandon its rhetoric and provocative actions, and maintain a dialogue with democratic Taiwan.

While we are so heavily engaged with the war on terrorism and involvement in Iraq, we must not lose sight of the democratic and freedom-loving Taiwan. I urge my Senate colleagues to encourage Taiwan to be strong and firm with its democratic principles, and I urge this body to make sure we stand up for and support Taiwan when she needs it the most. A strong Taiwan is not only good for her and her people, but it is a beacon of hope and encouragement for all those who have struggled and fought for democracy and the freeing of the human spirit. I thank the Senate for allowing me to raise these issues, and may God bless Taiwan—the Republic of China—richly.

#### HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart and deep sense of gratitude to honor the life of a brave young man from Batesville, IN. Sgt. Chad L. Keith, 21 years old, was killed in Baghdad on July 7, 2003 when he was ambushed while on patrol with his unit. Chad joined the Army with his entire life before him. He chose to risk everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

Chad was the eleventh Hoosier soldier to be killed while serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Today, I join Chad's family, his friends, and the entire Batesville community in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over his death, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is this courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Chad, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

Chad Keith spoke to his mother over the phone only days before his death, telling her that he was hot and tired, but proud to be making a difference in the world and following in the footsteps of several of his uncles who also served in the military. He was described by teachers and classmates as a polite, respectful young man who always had a smile on his face.

Chad was born in Pennsylvania, then moved to Newark, OH, before his family settled in Batesville. Chad graduated from Batesville High School in 2000 and then joined the Army, where he was assigned to the elite 82nd Airborne. Friends and family say that serving in the military had been a lifelong dream for Chad, who was only days away from being promoted to sergeant, an honor that now has been awarded posthumously. Chad leaves behind his parents, Kimberly and Mark Hitzges, two sisters, Courtney and Nicole, and a brother, Alex.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Chad Keith's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg:

We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

This statement is just as true today as it was nearly 150 years ago, as I am certain that the impact of Chad Keith's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Chad L. Keith in the official record of the United States Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy and peace. When I think about this just cause in which we are engaged, and the unfortunate pain that comes with the loss of our heroes, I hope that families like Chad's can find comfort in the words of the prophet Isaiah who said, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God bless the United States of America.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO JAMES HOLLINGSHEAD

• Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and honor an outstanding citizen of Mississippi, Mr. James Hollingshead of Waynesboro, who recently displayed extreme heroism and bravery while in Destin, FL.

On Sunday, June 8, 2003, Mr. Doyle Mosley and his wife Linda were enjoying their annual family vacation in Destin, FL. During the day, the waves had become increasingly high and a red flag had been put out by the lifeguards warning of potentially dangerous waves. The Mosleys' two oldest grandsons ventured into the water with their wake boards. Instantly they were caught in a dangerous and deadly rip-tide.

While one of the boys was able to remain on his board and return safely to shore, the other, Cal Tackett, was in